

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A23L1/0522 A23L1/09 A23P1/02 C08B30/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A23L A23P C08B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, FSTA

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 954 178 A (CATON DENNIS W) 4 September 1990 (1990-09-04) claims; examples -----	1-4
X	EP 1 166 645 A (CERESTAR HOLDING BV) 2 January 2002 (2002-01-02) cited in the application paragraphs '0020!, '0026!, '0031!, '0032!, '0034! - '0042!; claims; examples -----	1-22
X	US 4 871 398 A (KATCHER JAY H ET AL) 3 October 1989 (1989-10-03) cited in the application the whole document ----- -/--	5-20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Vernier, F

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 280 851 A (PITCHON ESRA ET AL) 28 July 1981 (1981-07-28) cited in the application the whole document	5-20
A	----- US 3 706 598 A (CARRELL PETER K) 19 December 1972 (1972-12-19) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-20

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/001744

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: -

Present claims 1-3 relate to a product defined by reference to the following parameter(s):

P1: compressibility
P2: mechanical stability
P3: SAOR (flowability)
P4: dissolution speed

The use of these parameters in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameters the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the product defined in terms of its DE, moisture content, density and particle size distribution.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4954178	A	04-09-1990	CA 1295996 C US 4810307 A	18-02-1992 07-03-1989
EP 1166645	A	02-01-2002	CA 2351276 A1 EP 1166645 A2 US 2002014180 A1	24-12-2001 02-01-2002 07-02-2002
US 4871398	A	03-10-1989	CA 2000827 A1 CN 1043320 A	09-06-1990 27-06-1990
US 4280851	A	28-07-1981	AT 9168 T AU 540982 B2 AU 6538580 A CA 1172091 A1 CA 1203117 A2 DE 3069087 D1 EP 0032296 A2 IE 50401 B1 US 4600472 A	15-09-1984 13-12-1984 16-07-1981 07-08-1984 15-04-1986 04-10-1984 22-07-1981 16-04-1986 15-07-1986
US 3706598	A	19-12-1972	NONE	